

# REAL CHANGE

FEB 28 2007

VOL. 13 NO. 52

\$1

YOUR VENDOR BUYS THIS PAPER FOR 35¢ AND KEEPS ALL THE PROCEEDS.

PLEASE PURCHASE FROM BAGGED VENDORS ONLY

WWW.REALCHANGENEWS.ORG

ISSUES • INSIGHT • IMPACT

DECEMBER 20 - 26, 2006



FELIX KRAMER, FOUNDER OF CALCARS, PLUGS IN HIS TOYOTA HYBRID CAR TO CHARGE UP AT HIS HOME IN REDWOOD CITY. ENVIRONMENTALISTS ARE PUSHING AUTO COMPANIES TO PRODUCE PLUG-IN HYBRIDS TO REDUCE U.S. OIL CONSUMPTION AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. PHOTO BY KIMBERLY WHITE.

## Plug My Ride

California's drivers clamor for a hybrid revolution

By KEVIN KROLICKI  
Street News Service

Russell Long already owns a pair of fuel-efficient hybrid cars — a Toyota Prius and a Honda Civic — but his dream car is not on the market yet: a zippy number he could plug in to recharge at night that would get over 100 miles per gallon.

Long, who founded the San Francisco-based Bluewater Network to reduce water pollution, is one of a growing number of environmentalists pushing auto companies to produce plug-in hybrids to reduce oil consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

This push is especially strong in California, whose tough regulations have encouraged the big automakers

to test a range of alternatives to traditional gas engines, from hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles to cars that run on natural gas.

But the most active grass-roots environmental campaign favors plug-in hybrids, which store power in rechargeable batteries and can run only on battery power for short trips in congested cities like Los Angeles.

"It has the potential to reduce oil consumption by millions of barrels per day," says Long, who has lobbied GM and Ford to get behind the technology. "If the question is what can we do in the short-term, there is only one answer, and that's plug-in hybrids."

The auto industry, which has a history of resisting environmental regulations, is now looking to court the growing number of U.S. drivers who say they are willing to pay more for an alternative to a traditional gas-powered vehicle. GM is seeking attention for a pair of current-generation hybrids: the Saturn Aura and the Yukon sport-utility vehicle. GM, BMW, Honda, and Nissan also showed off hydrogen-powered vehicles at the L.A. Auto Show earlier this month.

No automaker has yet committed to build a plug-in car, not even Toyota, whose Prius leads the market for current-generation hybrids.

## Gone Condo

Rising conversion rate prompts call for new law

By CYDNEY GILLIS  
Staff Reporter

Seattle is on its way to setting a record that worries City Council member Tom Rasmussen. What he's trying to do about it worries condo developers, too.

If developers convert as many apartments to condominiums in the second half of 2006 as they did in the first half — 1,162 — they will clobber last year's record-breaking 1,551 condo conversions, leaving more renters than ever scrambling to move if they can't afford to buy the units they live in.

Many of the units are in older buildings, which offer relatively low rents in today's high-priced Seattle. So Rasmussen, who chairs the council's Housing Committee, has been lobbying state senators to introduce a bill that would give renters more time to find a new apartment and, potentially, force developers to pay low-income tenants more than the \$500 that's now required to help residents move.

The condo conversion bill faces a few hurdles, however. Heading into the 2007 Legislature, which opens Jan. 8, the bill has no companion legislation to show support in the House and already faces criticism from two sides: the building industry and a housing watchdog group.

Earlier this year, Rasmussen asked Sen. Darlene Fairley (D-Lake Forest Park), then-chair of the Senate's Financial Institutions, Housing and Consumer Protection Committee, to draft and introduce a bill that would change the current state law that regulates condo conversion and tenant notice.

After a post-election shuffle of committees, Rasmussen now expects Fairley's successor, Brian Weinstein (D-Mercer Island), or Sen. Ken Jacobsen (D-Seattle) to introduce the legislation.

The bill, S-0034, would increase the amount of notice developers must give tenants from 90 to 120 days, require them to provide information about relocation assistance and how to get it, and prohibit them from starting any remodeling construction until the last tenant is out.

## MO', MO', MO'

Want to help our vendors increase their good cheer for the coming year? Supporting our Winter Fund Drive is a start.

PAGE 2

## POWER MANGERS

When the storm raged and the electricity went out, community centers provided safe haven for those looking for warmth.

PAGE 3

## TRADE WINS

This past election, voters chose a bevy of fair-trade friendly candidates to help steer a more socially conscious path.

PAGE 5

## RAY BEAM

Ray McGovern used to work in intelligence. Now, through ministry, he uses his know-how to put an end to wartime corruption.

PAGE 6

Change Agent.....	3
Just Heard.....	3
Poetry.....	4 7
Short Takes.....	4
Arts.....	8
Ask a Lawyer.....	9
Dr. Wes.....	9
Street Watch.....	9
Letters.....	10
Calendar.....	11
Director's Corner.....	11
First things First.....	11

Only two weeks left to the holiday fund drive.

Please make your gift today (see page 2)

See HYBRID, Continued on Page 4

See CONDO, Continued on Page 12

# Give the Gift of Change

## Our paper changes lives one friend at a time.

### Be a change agent. Support the Holiday fund drive today.



**A Real Voice of the Poor:** Real Change will broaden the opportunities that poor and homeless people have to inform the decisions that affect them. As part of this, we will launch a free monthly paper that is published by and for low-income people.

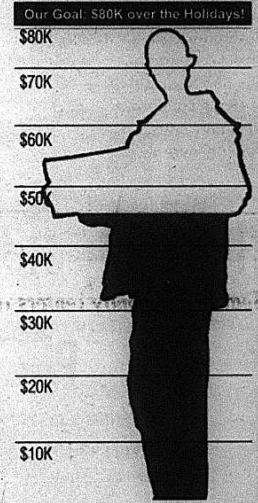
**Regional Distribution:** Real Change will seek out partners throughout Puget Sound to extend this opportunity to readers and vendors in new communities. Broadened distribution will also extend our advocacy base, and build power for long-term structural change.

**Broadened Readership:** We are an activist newspaper that reflects the vitality of a broad progressive community. Increasing vendor success means reaching new readers. In 2007, Real Change will launch a smart, targeted, marketing campaign to increase readership and vendor success.

**A Voice for Inclusion:** Real Change is committed to covering news and events in all of the communities that make up Seattle, and building relationships that lead to greater unity across race and class. An anti-bias strategy is a key part of our planning for the next five years.

**Deepened Community Organizing:** As the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness enters its second year of success, there is a great need for more organizing on the ground to build sustained political will. Real Change will organize neighborhood by neighborhood to help build that support.

**[Make a Holiday Gift to Real Change Today]**  
Coming into the last two weeks of Real Change's holiday fund drive, we still need to raise nearly \$35,000 to enter 2007 on solid ground. Last week, our amazing readers delivered another \$9,227, bringing us to \$45,378 raised since Nov. 1. \$80,000 is a very big number, but with your help we know we can reach this goal. **You may make a tax-deductible contribution at our website at [realchangenews.org](http://realchangenews.org), or see page 12 to make your gift now. Thank you for supporting Real Change.**



Real Change is published weekly and is sold by the poor and homeless of Seattle. Vendors receive 65¢ of the \$1.00 paid for this paper.

**Mission Statement:**

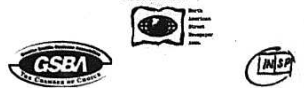
Real Change exists to create opportunity and a voice for low-income people while taking action to end homelessness and poverty.

The Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Programs include the Real Change newspaper, the StreetWrites peer support group for homeless writers, the Homeless Speakers Bureau, and the First things First organizing project. All donations support these programs and are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

**On the Web at**

<http://www.realchangenews.org>  
Email [rchange@speakeasy.org](mailto:rchange@speakeasy.org)  
ISSN 1085-729X

Real Change is a member of the North American Street Newspaper Association, the International Network of Street Papers, and the Greater Seattle Business Association.



### Who Is Real Change?

**Board of Directors**

Don Brown (President), Faith Wilder (VP), Erica Wiley (VP), Anne Bailey (Treasurer), Rebecca Kavoussi (Secretary), Wes Browning, John Denooyer, Stephan Fjeltstad, Katherine Jakieliski, Margaret Kae, Mandy Levenberg, Gabriela Quintana, Jolo Tran

**Advisory Board**

Affiliations listed for identification purposes only: Sherman Alexie, Poet, Writer, Filmmaker, Nancy Amidei, UW School of Social Work; Kenan Block, Media Consultant; David Bloom, Rauschenbusch Center for Spirit and Action; Kari Connor, Wangoody; Darrell Dent, Community Health Plan of Washington; Jim Diers, Author; Lynne Dodson, Jobs with Justice; John Fox, Seattle Displacement Coalition; Larry Gossett, King County Councilmember, Dist. 10; Jon Gould, Children's Alliance; Andy Himes, Poetry in Wartime; Bill Hobson, Downtown Emergency Service Center, Naomi Ishitaka, Colors NW; Sally Kinney, Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness; Sharon Lee, Low Income Housing Institute; Paul Loeb, Writer, Sarah Luthens, SEAMEC/Allyship.org; Roberto Maestas, El Centro de la Raza; Paola Maranan, Children's Alliance; Joe Martin, Pike Market Medical Clinic; Vince Mathlonis, United Way of King County; Carlos Marentes, Committee for General Amnesty and Social Justice; Al Poole, City of Seattle Survival Services; Wilson Edward Reed, PhD, Seattle University; Trisha Ready, Richard Hugo House; Aiko Schaefer, Statewide Poverty Action Network; Peter Schurman, Retired; K.L. Shannon, Racial Disparity Project; Bob Siegal, National Lawyers Guild; Center for

Social Justice; Rick Simonson, Elliott Bay Book Co.; Pat Simpson, Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness; Hilary Stern, CASA Latina; Robby Stern, WA State Labor Council; Peter Steinbrueck, Seattle City Council; Silja Tahvi, Journalist/essayist; Jim Theofelis, Mockingbird Society; Marilyn Watkins, Economic Opportunity Institute; Bruce Wirth, KBCS; Alice Woldt, WA Association of Churches

**Staff**

Executive Director  
Timothy Harris  
Director of Advocacy and Organizing  
Rachael Myers  
Editor  
Adam Hyla  
Staff Reporters  
Cydney Gillis, Rosette Royale  
Production Manager  
Rosette Royale  
Director of Operations  
Craig Kirkpatrick  
Director of Development  
Joe Bushek  
Volunteer Coordinator and Office Manager  
Brooke Kemper  
Vendor Services  
Robert Hansen, Margaret Kae

Advertising Sales Representative  
Candi Wilvang

**Interns**

Darina Garcia, Kevin Hernandez, Billy Joyce, Joel Turner, Lindsay Trea

**Editorial Committee**

Artis, Mary Andrews, Wes Browning, Stan Burris, Morrie Condit, Anita Freeman, José Ornelas, F. Roberts, Ruanda

**Contributing Writers**

Amy Besunder, Dena Burke, Julie Chinitz, J. Jacob Edel, Jess Grant, Lester Gray, Jessica Knapp, Robin Lindley, Chris Miller, Emma Quinn, Amy Roe, Rachel Rubinstein, Diana Wurn

**Photographers, Graphic Artists**

Ginny Banks, Ken Dean, Terry Divyak, Sean Ellingson, George Hickey, Elisa Huerta-Enochin, Sherry Looser, Luka McGuff, Justin Mills, Jude O'Reilly, Katha Roberts, Elliot Stoller, Mark Sullo.

**Volunteers This Issue**

Artis, Nick Cottrell, Tige DeCoster, Sara Dooling, Sandra Enger, Jeanette Fassbind, Susanne Forham, Rick Garrett, Valeria Garvida, Nadine Gioia, Ana Haberman, Armando Levio, Brianna Morgan, Dan Otto, Loretta Pirozzi, Beth Roberts, Rachel Smith, Sara Sprigg, Carrie Wicks

# Change

For Chris Van Dyk, a former investment consultant, subsidizing private sports is "both a symbol and reality of government waste, and an opportunity to talk about priorities." So when Van Dyk, co-founder of Citizens for More Important Things (CMIT), found the Sonics asking Seattle to bail them out of Key Arena with a \$200 million super-subsidy, he dreamed up the now-approved Initiative 91, which restricted the city from doling out corporate welfare to professional athletic teams.

The Service Employees International Union Local 775, whose members provide long-term care, proved a vital ally, collecting over 15,000 of the 25,000 signatures necessary to put I-91 to a vote. Adam Glickman, Local 775's head of public affairs, says their members see the impact of public funding every day — in understaffed nursing homes and poor medical access — and are "understandably angry when the city decides to use money to subsidize wealthy sports teams."

Says Glickman: "Seattle was ready to send a message, they just needed a vehicle, and we gave them one."

—Chris Miller



DUNKED: Chris Van Dyk, the organizer for Citizens for More Important Things, and Adam Glickman, the spokesman for SEIU Local 775, backed the Initiative 91 campaign, which passed in November. Photo by Joel Turner

## Heavenly Host

Seattle community centers respond to power outage

By ADAM HYLIA  
Editor

[Emergency] Get tips on how to prepare for war, earthquake, or the next windstorm: [www.seattle.gov/emergency\\_mgt](http://www.seattle.gov/emergency_mgt).

Leaning back in an overstuffed chair, bare feet propped on an ottoman, Nora Garris was the picture of drowsy contentment. A nearly empty cup of a Starbucks blended drink sat nearby; Court TV blared on the big screen in front of her. Her head drooped, she raised it, it drooped again.

And when a reporter came and crouched at her feet, she told him sleepily that she was a lot better off here, at the Delridge Community Center, than at home, shivering under a blanket in the dark. It was Monday, and the power at the White Center house she shares with her grandmother had been off since Thursday night.

There, the electrical crews "just keep going by, waving, saying 'We know you're there,'" she said. "We're the only house on our block without power."

Garris had had enough cold, enough dark, enough quiet. Grandma is still at home, being

"stubborn as a mule. She wants me to go back there and be miserable with her."

It was night five of Seattle's great wind-storm-caused power outage, when about 16,000 of the city's residential customers were still without light or heat. Here at Delridge, there were hot showers, plenty of food, blankets and a cot. Garris, however, was the sole user of these amenities. On previous nights, the Parks Department had logged as many as 78 people at four city-run community centers in West Seattle, the Rainier Valley, and north Seattle's Bitter Lake neighborhood.

Parks spokesperson Dewey Potter said the city planned to close one of the facilities Tuesday night; they're assessing shelter needs "a day at a time," she said. "If the word on the street is that there's a need, we'll certainly stay open."

Garris' angle of repose is perhaps typical of Seattle's more cheery response to the power outage. Others' search for the essentials went horribly wrong, with 12 people dying of odorless, colorless carbon monoxide emitted from gas grills or generators used indoors. More than 100 more were treated at local hospitals for CO poisoning.

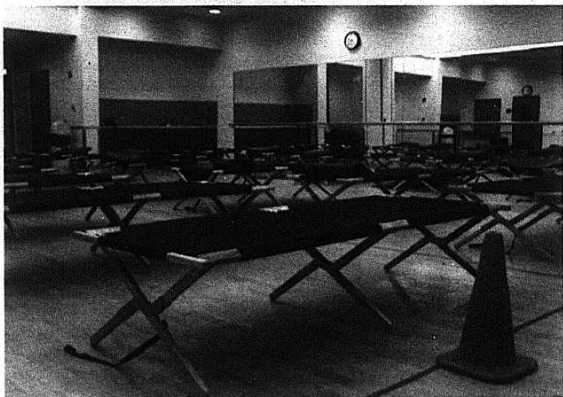
On Monday, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels advised citizens to stay away from downed power lines and asked landlords to watch for fires at buildings where powerless smoke alarms had failed.

Officials with Seattle City Light and Puget Sound Energy estimated that power won't be fully restored to about 160,000 customers in the region until Thursday.

This is the kind of news unlikely to entice Nora Garris to go home, where just getting the basics done was messy business. That morning, she said, she had been forced to show up for an 8:45 appointment in traffic court in her pajamas. The judge dismissed her. "I commend you for being here, but I won't make you stay. It's no better at my house either," she recalls him saying.

"I think under the robe, he was dressed the same as me." ■

Storm front: cots at the Delridge Community Center. Photo by Adam Hylia



## Just Heard...

### Skateparks roll on

Planning for a citywide network of spots for Seattle skateboarders is also heading out of the Parks Department, with a Jan. 11 vote scheduled before the aforementioned Board of Park Commissioners. What's no longer on the table are skate parks on top of two reservoirs that Seattle Public Utilities plans to cap. Instead, the Skatepark Advisory Task Force is asking the city to prioritize funding for six small- to medium-sized facilities; funding for 20 other recommended sites could be derived from public and private sources.

### Viaduct: up or down

Gov. Christine Gregoire's Dec. 15 "findings" on replacing the Alaskan Way Viaduct and the Highway 520 floating bridge said more about political self-preservation than structural engineering. Yes, she stated, state government doesn't have the money for a waterfront tunnel to replace the viaduct. What's the answer? Getting someone else (us voters) to weigh in, saving the gov a confrontation with the mayor of the state's largest and most Democratic city. "We need to hear directly from the people for whom this decision has the most impact," she said in a press statement.

Joe Voter will have his say in March or April, so state legislators can decide how much more they'll kick in. Promoting the less-costly rebuild, City councilmembers David Della and Nick Licata have put forth proposed language for a Viaduct referendum: up or down. Which scotches the third way: a transit-plus-streets proposal put forth by the People's Waterfront Coalition.

—Adam Hylia

### Parks: grand selection

The Seattle City Council is still trying to get a handle on the Parks Department — this time through the Board of Park Commissioners.

In November, the council got a charter amendment passed that gives it an up or down vote every four years on the Parks Superintendent and two other department heads appointed by the mayor. Now Councilmember David Della, chair of the Parks Committee, is pushing legislation that would add a member to the Park Board and let the council make half the appointments.

The board currently has seven members, all appointed by the mayor. They take testimony and advisory votes on Parks projects, some of which — such as cutting down trees at Occidental Park or putting a concert series at Gas Works — rankled citizens enough to stage an anti-Parks rally in February.

"In the long-run, this law will help broaden the perspectives of the board," says Della. His committee plans to discuss and possibly vote on the measure, which is cosponsored by Councilmember Peter Steinbrueck, at its 2 p.m. meeting on Wed., Dec. 20 at City Hall.

—Cydney Gillis

## HYBRID, Continued from Page 1

Meanwhile, consumer demand has caused others to fill the gap.

Looking to jumpstart broader commercial interest, one San Francisco area nonprofit group, CalCars, has helped build about 20 plug-ins since 2004 by hacking and tricking out the Prius.

The cars are outfitted with new lithium-ion battery packs, which hold a charge longer than more common nickel metal hydride batteries.

CalCars founder Felix Kramer said the goal would be to persuade big carmakers to switch to plug-in technology quickly.

"I'm kind of looking at this like Pearl Harbor, where the auto industry went from making cars and trucks to planes and tanks in just a year."

He said part of the appeal of the plug-in technology is its potential to reduce the U.S. reliance on oil, since the cars would draw power partly from the electric grid.

But critics argue that, depending on how cleanly the electricity is generated, plug-in technology would just shift the source of pollution from the car to the power generator, which in some cases is fueled by coal.

Sherry Boschert, a member of the advocacy group Plug In America and author of a new book on plug-ins called "The Cars that Will Recharge America," says

she worried development efforts could also be slowed by arguments about the technical limits of current batteries.

Some automakers have signaled that they would prefer to wait for the emerging class of lithium-ion car batteries to develop before pressing ahead, she says.

"These cars are doable today," she said. "At what point do you have to say that good is good enough?"

For his part, Kramer said he was confident his effort was tapping into two divergent interest groups that have helped define popular culture in California—environmentalists and hot-rodders.

"All sorts of trends begin in California, and certainly that's true for pollution controls," he says. "But we also have a car culture here of tuners, which you know if you've seen *The Fast and the Furious*. We're green tuners." ■

Story courtesy of Reuters. ©Street News Service: www.streetpapers.org

## [Online]

Plug In America is a booster for all electrified vehicles: [www.pluginamerica.com](http://www.pluginamerica.com). Bay Area nonprofit CalCars outfits Toyota hybrids with plug-in technology: [www.calcars.org](http://www.calcars.org).

In a parallel effort, small California company EnergyCS is planning to convert new Prius models into plug-ins. The price? \$12,000. Info: [www.energycs.com](http://www.energycs.com).

## Untitled

We should stop making things.

Is there a reason not to?

Would you die if you had to wear your clothes until they wore out, and then mend them? If you had to drive a car until it broke down, and then fix it.

We keep people alive until they are beyond dead.

Where did this ego come from?

Can we fix it? Can we stop making things?

You don't have to be young to be alive; you shouldn't have to have a nice car to be accepted.

Is it the new cock?

The new tits?

If I get a little uglier then I better get a little more stylish?

Is that what you are telling me?

I'm going to plant something every time I see a gray hair.

I don't need to be new.

Why do you?

-BRIAN B.

## Short Takes

## Gregoire gifting

The governor's budget didn't give human services advocates everything they had hoped for, but, as Christmas gifts go, it comes close — and, for once, there aren't any cuts.

In her nearly \$30 billion budget for 2007-09, Gov. Christine Gregoire has proposed adding 32,000 more children to the state's health care rolls — a significant increase, says Tony Lee, advocacy director with the Fremont Public Association, that would cover mostly immigrant children and bring the state's total coverage to 624,000 children.

For foster kids, Gregoire has allotted more money for case workers (which is good news for the Children's Administration, given that it has failed to meet the monthly visits called for in its 2004 Broom lawsuit settlement). For people leaving welfare under the WorkFirst program, the governor has also proposed a Post-Employment TANF program that would supplement their earnings with an extra \$100 for six months after they get a job.

The budget would also add \$40 million to the Housing Trust Fund, a \$100 million fund from which grants are made to build low-income housing. The Washington State Coalition for the Homeless and other groups are advocating the fund be raised to \$363 million, and that monthly welfare and general assistance (GAU) grants be increased — something Gregoire did not include in her proposal, which is now headed to the Legislature.

"We would have liked to see more money for the Housing Trust Fund and GAU," Lee says. But, "Overall, it's a pretty good budget."

## Au revoir, Aradia

Lack of health insurance doesn't just hurt people; it hurts the entire health care system. The loss of Seattle's Aradia Women's Health Center is a case in point.

Aradia was founded in 1972 to provide gynecology services with a supportive feminist ethic. Judgment was not tolerated, and a patient undergoing an abortion always had a volunteer advocate at her side. It was a model, however, that the nonprofit could no longer support: On Dec. 12, Aradia's board president, Scott Leopold, announced the clinic will close its doors at the end of January.

In the announcement, Leopold cited the rising cost of malpractice insurance, security, and rent. But he also noted a steady increase in the number of women whose bills went unpaid, either for lack of any health insurance or because state coverage under Medicaid paid too little. "Seventy percent of our clients currently require subsidized health care from our clinic," he wrote, "and the burden of making up the cost of providing services has become too heavy to shoulder."

The clinic's most recent tax filing tells the story: In 2005, Aradia took in about \$865,000 in revenue for its services, but had expenses of \$1.1 million. Even with the donations it received, the clinic was operating at a loss when its director of 18 years, Marcy Bloom, retired in May.

"It's about market forces," says Bloom, who says Aradia had considered options such as a staff reduction or merger before she left. "We don't have universal health care, and when you're a small feminist clinic that emphasizes quality health care," she says, "it ends up not being a viable business model, which is sad and tragic."

— Cydney Gillis

## Losing out

Seattle's lower-earning wanna-be renters may already know it when they look on Craigslist, but a soon-to-be released report puts it down in black-and-white: Citywide, there are fewer affordable housing units available to them than last year. That statistic and

others — including a two-year drop in vacancy rates — are contained within a draft document entitled "Seattle Housing Inventory," issued by Seattle's Office of Housing. With a final report due out early next year, the report collates data that examines the state and fate of housing in four of the city's geographic areas: Center City, Central Area, Southeast Seattle, and the U-District. Average rents in these areas amounted to \$951.

For a person earning 31-50 percent of the 2006 King County median income for a one-person household — \$16,350 to \$27,250 — only 42 percent of available rental units in these areas were affordable. Last year, a person in this same group could have found 47 percent of available rental units in reach of their earnings.

Rick Hooper, director of policy and program development for the Office of Housing, says that in the current market, as demand for apartments increases, landlords are able to raise the cost of a rental unit.

Increasing a unit's cost can potentially push that apartment into a new, higher category of affordability, Hooper continues. In other words: What was once available to those earning 31-50 percent of median household income, is now affordable for the person earning 51-80 percent of median.

Hooper says the final report — which will also examine subsidized rental housing, homeownership housing (including condo conversions), and housing stock changes due to residential demolitions — will be used by the City Council as baseline data on affordable housing, which can be updated annually. For his office, which is entrusted with creating affordable housing opportunities, Hooper says the report can act as a guide for program development. Research like this, he says, helps the office "to get a handle on the private market."

— Rosette Royale



## Righting the wrongs

MORE THAN 100 PEOPLE HELD A MOCK FUNERAL PROCESSION ON SUN., DEC. 10, FOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE UN'S UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. MARCHERS LAID CASKETS IN WESTLAKE PARK TO COMMEMORATE THE VICTIMS OF STATE-SPONSORED VIOLENCE IN MEXICO, THE PHILIPPINES, AND GUANTÁNAMO. PHOTO BY KATIA ROBERTS

# Season of our Discontent

*Fair-Trade issues made a difference in the election*

By CHRIS SLEVIN  
Citizens Trade PAC

In the Senate — traditionally a very pro-WTO, pro-NAFTA chamber — seven new Senators who oppose status-quo trade policies will be sworn in next month.

While discontent about the results of corporate-driven globalization simmered since the passage of NAFTA in the early '90s, the 1999 Seattle WTO protests and the issues they highlighted — from environmental, labor, and human rights abuses, to drug patent rules that keep generics out of more people's hands — awakened new activism and diversified the coalition against unfair trade.

The 2006 midterm elections were perhaps the most significant moment for the American fair trade movement since Seattle. What was just seven years ago a massive demonstration in the streets has now become a demand for elected officials to reverse course from the WTO/NAFTA model. It has also been winning politics across the country, with more than 100 candidates in 2006 for House, Senate and Governor running actively on a fair trade platform.

Increased and focused activism helped. The Citizens Trade Campaign, a coalition of labor, environmental, farm and consumer groups very active in the Seattle mobilization, raised funds to support organizers who specialize in get-out-the-vote efforts to work for congressional candidates who campaigned on fair trade. This effort complimented ongoing organizing by groups like Working Families Win, Labor 2006, Change to Win, and WashTech's work on trade and offshoring.

The message from this election has been that standing up for middle-class values on trade, health care and other economic issues can be key to electoral victory. Indeed, on globalization issues alone, over 30 congressional seats — far more than the margin of passage on most recent trade votes in Congress — shifted into the fair trade column, reported Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch in a post-election report. In the Senate — traditionally a very pro-WTO, pro-NAFTA chamber — seven new Senators who oppose status-quo trade policies will be sworn in next month.

The first step forward in fixing our trade policy is changing the way in which we negotiate trade agreements. In 2002, the Bush administration pushed through Congress "Fast Track" trade authority, an extraordinary mechanism that diminishes Congress' role in the process all the way down to voting yes or no on a signed agreement with barely any time for debate. Fast Track sunsets in July 2007, and while the Bush administration will seek its renewal, the new Congress is unlikely to grant it.

There is an opportunity now to move forward with an alternative: something that includes meaningful labor, environmental, and consumer protections in the core text, so that violations of them are actually enforceable.

While NAFTA allowed dozens of corporations to privately enforce their overly expansive rights and receive tax-payer dollars, no NAFTA labor or environmental grievance ever made it past the preliminary stages. Incorporating these protections into the core of the agreement removes a double standard.

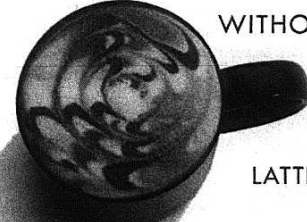
The American fair-trade movement's emergence is in the tradition of economic populism that challenges pro-corporate values that define modern American culture. In the NAFTA/WTO era, the breadth of its critics has grown steadily — not surprising, when you consider the effects of corporate-managed trade deals on working people at home and abroad.

The tactics for changing course on this front are multiple, from WTO ministerial demonstrations to corporate campaigning to grassroots lobbying to immense legislative campaigns. An electoral step has been taken in 2006 that will certainly lay the groundwork for a broader national discussion in 2008. ■

*Chris Slevin is director of Citizens Trade PAC, which raised funds to support organizers to get-out-the-vote for fair trade congressional candidates in the 2006 elections. Of the 15 candidates Citizens Trade PAC endorsed, 12 won.*

**[Resources]**  
For more information and to get involved, contact: Washington Fair Trade Coalition, an alliance of local and state groups: [www.washingtonfairtrade.org](http://www.washingtonfairtrade.org)  
Citizens Trade Campaign, [www.citizenstrade.org](http://www.citizenstrade.org)  
Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch, [www.tradewatch.org](http://www.tradewatch.org)


Let Real Change  
be part of your success  
Reach 40,000 socially concerned readers while giving back to the community.  
Real Change ad rates are competitive and affordable.  
Check us out at [www.realchangenews.org](http://www.realchangenews.org), or call 441-3247 x202



WITHOUT DOUBT, THE MOST  
SOCIALY RESPONSIBLE  
LATTÉ YOU'LL EVER DRINK.

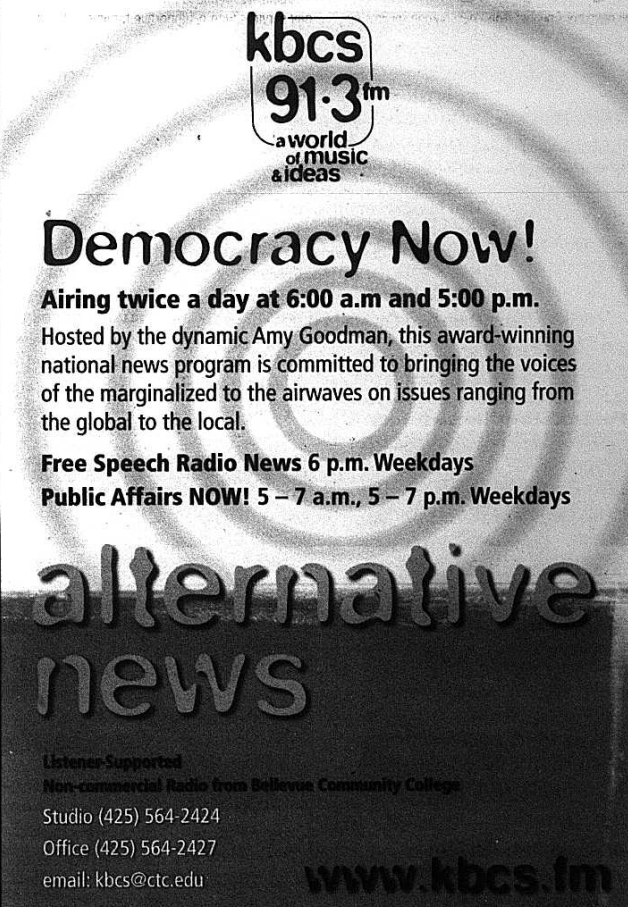
When can a delicious latté help Seattle youth get off the streets and begin to lead healthy, productive lives? When you order it from a FareStart Café providing on-the-job experience for our Barista Training and Education Program. If one latté does all that, imagine the power of a sandwich and pastry.

[www.farestart.org](http://www.farestart.org)  
FareStart Library Café, Seattle Central Library, 1000 4th Ave.  
FareStart Café at 2100, 2100 24th Ave. S., Rainier Valley.



FARESTART  
Great Coffee. Better Lives.

Buy a pastry or sandwich, get a free coffee (expires 04/01/07)



**kbcs**  
**91.3**fm  
a world of music & ideas

## Democracy Now!

Airing twice a day at 6:00 a.m and 5:00 p.m.  
Hosted by the dynamic Amy Goodman, this award-winning national news program is committed to bringing the voices of the marginalized to the airwaves on issues ranging from the global to the local.  
Free Speech Radio News 6 p.m. Weekdays  
Public Affairs NOW! 5 – 7 a.m., 5 – 7 p.m. Weekdays

# alternative news

Listener-Supported  
Non-commercial Radio from Bellevue Community College  
Studio (425) 564-2424  
Office (425) 564-2427  
email: [kbcs@ctc.edu](mailto:kbcs@ctc.edu)  
[www.kbcs.fm](http://www.kbcs.fm)

# The Good Shepherd

Ex-CIA analyst Ray McGovern fights wartime lies from the stronghold of an urban ministry

By **CYDNEY GILLIS**  
Staff Reporter

"When people start wars, whether it's Vietnam or the war against Iraq, and the truth is not told, who takes it on the chin? The people who live in the inner city, the people on the farms, the people who don't really have any voice in what happens."

One day, corrupt intelligence drove Ray McGovern over the edge.

McGovern worked 27 years at the Central Intelligence Agency. At the end, he was a top analyst preparing the President's Daily Briefing for George H.W. Bush, who wrote a fine letter to go with the Intelligence Commendation Medal that McGovern received when he retired in 1990.

For the next 12 years, McGovern devoted himself to his church and a ministry it had created in Washington, D.C., called the Servant Leadership School. It teaches people that one finds God not just in helping the poor, but in knowing and building relationships with the truly marginalized.

Then came George W. Bush, whose administration bent intelligence on Iraq so far, so fast, that McGovern was appalled. In early 2003, he and several retired colleagues founded Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity, a group that now includes 57 former analysts who spend their time correcting the record as best they can.

In March of this year, revolted that then-CIA Director Porter Goss had tried to get Sen. John McCain to drop a proposed ban on torture, McGovern took a more dramatic step: He returned his Intelligence Commendation Medal to U.S. Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-Michigan), chair of the House Intelligence Committee, with a letter urging him to do something.

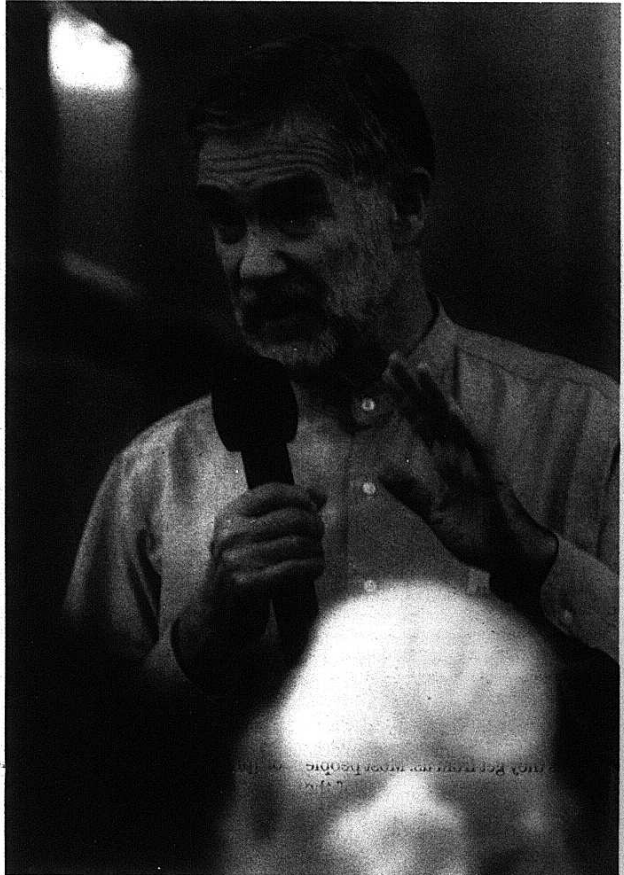
"I was thinking about my grandchildren, frankly," McGovern says. Afraid they might one day ask what he had done to stop the torture, he realized that his answer up to that point — writing op-eds and speeches — wouldn't have cut it. "I never heard a word from him," he says of Hoekstra, "but I felt like for me, personally, I needed to do that. And I'm glad I did."

**Real Change:** What led you to found Veteran Intelligence Professionals for Sanity?

Ray McGovern: When it became clear to not only me but several of my former colleagues, mostly analysts within the agency, that the intelligence was being cooked to justify an unnecessary war, we all felt we had a civic duty, really, to find out what was really going on and to tell the truth about our own government, the more so since the mainstream press had become domesticated and the people were not getting a straight story. There's no word in English to explain how we felt. *Outrage* doesn't do it. It falls far short. We were just incensed, not only at the corruption of our profession, intelligence analysis, but more so by the undermining of the Constitution, for Pete's sake. And to watch the Constitution subverted, with one branch deliberately deceiving the other, namely Congress, and its prerogative to declare and authorize war — that was just too much.

**RC:** But hasn't the CIA subverted the Constitution in the past? What about Oliver North and Iran-gate?

**RM:** What you had was a rogue elephant exercise in those days. William Casey, the head of the CIA, was running his own illegal operations. The Iran-Contra affair showed that he and others were soliciting funds from the Saudis and others to fund an illegal war [in Nicaragua].... Never did the intelligence analysts A, know about these operation details, and B, never were we asked



to falsify substantive intelligence to justify them — with one exception, and I have to point that out because the fellow responsible for it became the director of Central Intelligence [and is now Secretary of Defense]. His name is Robert M. Gates.

I know him well, since he worked for me when he first came to the agency. He was a thoroughly ambitious person, and when the White House wanted to persuade everyone that there was a moderate group in Tehran and that it was OK to ask the Israelis to give our weaponry to this group and then they would use their influence to get hostages released, Robert Gates deliberately falsified the national intelligence estimate.

**RC:** How do you go from being a CIA analyst to working with the poor at the Servant Leadership School?

**RM:** It's a straight line. What we're trying to do is tell the truth. When people start wars, whether it's Vietnam or the war against Iraq, and the truth is not told, who takes it on the chin? The people who live in the inner city, the people on the farms, the people who don't really have any voice in what happens. [President Johnson], way back during Vietnam, he had started the Great Society. Hunger among the poor in the South had been already eliminated, there was progress being made, and the country

*Ray McGovern, a retired CIA officer turned political activist, talks with an audience during a question and answer session at the Trinity United Methodist Church in October. Photo by Joel Turner*

PocketRocketChocolate.com

Xoçai

Discover  
the Healthy Chocolate!

**Eat Healthy Chocolate?**  
**Lose Weight!**  
**Make MONEY!**  
Call Candi 206 264-2546

More than a Christmas charity

Please help!



Please give today!

YES, I want to help feed and shelter people in need with my gift of:

\$20  \$35  \$50  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

DOING THE MOST GOOD  
Please send your tax-deductible gift to:  
The Salvation Army  
P.O. Box 9219  
Seattle, WA 98109-0220

To make a gift by credit card, call toll-free 1-800-SAL-ARMY.  
www.SalvationArmyNW.org

Continued from Previous Page

had the wealth to do it. And it was squandered on an unnecessary, fruitless war. And what we're seeing now is exactly the same thing. [The poor] can't find jobs. They can't find health care. All of those services have been cut [in what could be] appropriately called "a God-damned budget."

RC: What is the program?

RM: It's an ecumenical church, mostly Christian but also a smattering of Jews, even a Muslim or two, that decided that the scripture really says that God is fond of the poor. We initially acquired two apartment buildings [in a poor section of Washington, D.C.] that would have been gentrified. We saved them for the residents and got to know their needs: first and foremost, jobs, children's after-school and summer programs, and now our biggest ministry is to homeless people who are addicted to alcohol or drugs or both. They come to us by word on the street. We also make available the learnings that we have had by trial and error, mostly error as you might imagine. Our vision is to empower people to form their own nonprofits or work at ones that we know. The dynamic in these classes, where we're learning together, is trying to figure out how not to minister to, not to help, but how to really be with people on the margins, how to form relationships that are mutually sustaining. And they are. We receive from people on the margins as much as they get from us. Most people [who work with us] come out of the faith tradition and are motivated by the feeling that if God is to be encountered, if you are to believe the Judeo-Christian scriptures, you're going to find God in the poor. As enigmatic as that sounds, that's what we believe.

RC: How do you find God in the poor?

RM: Well, it's amazing. When you take someone in the building who's been or still is addicted, you take them in a little room [or a] little chapel, and you just sit silently and wait for them to say something. This one particular man, after about two minutes, he started talking to me and his story was incredible. And I listened and listened. After about 10 minutes, he said, "Any coffee here?" And I said, "Yeah." And as we're going to the coffee, he said, "You know, this is better than pills." I said, "What do you mean?" He said, "You listening to me. You heard me. You were interested in me." With people like that, giving them the encouragement that they have something,

if it's only their story, that somebody is interested in, that somebody will listen to, that means a great deal to them.

RC: You've talked about the failure of America's white churches to resist the Bush administration's policies. Why is that?

RM: The churches are running shotgun for the system. I speak of the institutional church now, whether it's Catholic or Protestant or Jewish. People are comfortable. People are very much the same as they were in the early '30s in Germany. They're not being affected and, worst of all, they're not being confronted with the real gospel. They're being given this spiritualized Jesus. Jesus must be cringing wherever he is, saying, "My goodness, look what they've made of me, this person that is interested in all the *spiritual* things. I could have died very safely and comfortably in my bed if I wasn't so much of an opponent of the oppressive system that existed in my day." And that, of course, is true.

So the bishops in my particular faith tradition, the Catholic bishops, they talk a good game. Catholic social teaching is second to none, but the message is not preached in parishes. I'll give you an example. Tom Gumbleton, one of the best bishops in the world, came to talk to us at the Servant Leadership School, after succeeding in getting his colleague bishops to approve language in a resolution they gave to the administration that said that causing 500,000 Iraqi children to die because of ~~[pre-invasion] economic sanctions~~ was "unconscionable"—that was the word that was used. One of my Protestant friends asked, "Bishop Gumbleton, how did the administration react to 270 bishops doing that?" And he bit his tongue and said, "Well, you know, the administration looks on us as 270 possible votes. Now there are 70 million Catholics. If we had gone back to our dioceses and called all our pastors before us and said, 'Look, this is the word you must preach. Denying causing the deaths of half a million people under five years old by these *unconscionable* sanctions, that's an unconscionable policy. You will preach that word and tell Catholics to guide themselves accordingly.'" If we had done that, says Tom Gumbleton, then we could have made a difference. ■

## I Am Not a Hunter Gatherer

As the day begins:  
an owl flutters  
from beneath my eyelids  
lulled by the soft wind  
beneath the stars  
out hunting for morsels  
of cat & mouse.

It's still too early  
for bigger prey  
I rustle from my foxhole  
of sleep without a sheep  
or a nose-twitching rabbit  
I sharpen my claws.

I've lost the scent  
face up to the clock  
Admit: I am not  
a good hunter-gatherer  
second hands whirr  
in the gamey dark.

—MICHAEL MAGEE

**The CoHo Team**  
of Windermere Agents

**3 Socially Responsible Realtors**  
**Over \$330,000 Donated**  
**Now, Carbon Neutral**  
<http://www.cohorealty.com>

**Windermere**  
Windermere Real Estate/Wall Street, Inc.  
Windermere Real Estate/Northwest, Inc.

**LEFT BANK BOOKS**  
Worker Owned and Operated Collective Since 1973

92 Pike St.  
Pike Place Market  
Mon-Sat 10-7  
Sun 11-6

Used and New books

[www.leftbankbooks.com](http://www.leftbankbooks.com)  
[leftbank@leftbankbooks.com](mailto:leftbank@leftbankbooks.com)  
206.622.0195

*Beauty & Strength*



2007 CALENDAR

**Beauty & Strength 2007 Wall Calendar**  
Women of Mary's Place Speak of Homelessness & Hope  
Available for Holiday gift-giving • \$10 postage paid  
Order form at [www.churchofmarymagdalene.org](http://www.churchofmarymagdalene.org)  
or call 206-621-8474

# Looking for Ms. Goodall

Jane Goodall: *The Woman Who Redefined Man*

By Dale Peterson  
Houghton Mifflin, 2006  
Hardcover, 740 pages, \$35

By BONNIE OLSON  
Contributing Writer

If ever there were a white actor for whom Africa is not a mere backdrop, it would be Jane Goodall, who lived at least half of her adult life on the continent.

If anyone really knows the complex and sometimes controversial Jane Goodall (besides her husband), it is Dale Peterson. In addition to working with her as editor and coauthor, he himself is a published naturalist. Overall, he has produced an engaging work with a scientist's eye for detail. As the title suggests, the book chronicles Jane Goodall's revolutionary work as the "woman who redefined man" and is written as thoroughly as one of Jane Goodall's chimp studies, illuminated by her lifetime of journals and the letters seemingly kept by everyone who ever knew her. The author liberally uses this source material, from newsletters for the animal theme club by a studious, pre-adolescent Jane, to the loving descriptions of her chimp friendships.

At times the sheer volume of details seems excessive, and I found myself speed-reading past descriptions of every pet and male suitor Jane every had. Yet it gives the reader a tangible experience, through day-to-day detail, of the rugged trials and physical discomforts that few would be able to endure. Dale Peterson judiciously includes less glamorous aspects of

Jane's work: the hard toil of money woes and fundraising and the glacially slow progress to improve conditions for primates in U.S. laboratories and zoos around the world.

The reader comes to understand just how revolutionary Goodall's approach was. She eschewed "a certain kind of science, where the scientist works as a manipulator and voyeur: elevated, protected, distanced, hiding behind the curtain... Jane's alternative style placed observer and observed in the same field, not only literally and physically but also... psychologically and intellectually."

Peterson cogently presents the rich context of Goodall's groundbreaking scientific work but misses her revolutionary contributions regarding other blinders in white, Western culture. He switches from detailed accounts in her early work to summary references, leaving a tangible void.

If ever there were a white actor for whom Africa is not a mere backdrop, it would be Jane Goodall, who lived at least half of her adult life on the continent. She lived in one of the most progressive African countries, Tanzania, while the continent was bursting with the zeal of fresh independence from colonial rule. Jane's second husband, Derek Bryceson, was a government cabinet minister and a close friend and next-door neighbor of Julius Nyerere, Tanzania's first president and a tower-

ing figure in the African independence movement. Among Peterson's omissions are Jane's work in the midst of African nation building and her innovative solutions to local economic need and environmental decline. How did she negotiate the shift from a research center of white scientists with African helpers to African scientists with local universities establishing programs and sending graduate students? How does the Jane Goodall Institute sustain their collaborative projects throughout Africa, combining village education and prosperity with ecological revival?

Glossing over her life grounded in Africa itself makes the book feel like yet another myopic tome.

We learn all about Louis Leakey, the renowned father of our search for the origins of mankind, but nothing about Julius Nyerere and Kofi Annan, chairman of the United Nations. We learn all about her Europe-centered world, but too little about her Africa-centered world, where Jane's innovative contributions also have much to offer.

Jane Goodall, at 70 plus, continues to dedicate herself to the fields of conservation, animal rights, environmental education, peace and human rights. To do justice to the immense, extraordinary life of Jane, we may need a sequel, with less trivia about daily life and more insight into the revolutionary implications her work offers other fields attempting to address the challenges of our times. ■

# The Best and the Brightest

The Good Shepherd  
Directed by Robert De Niro

By LESTER GRAY  
Arts Editor

Edward Wilson's virtuous world, the post-Depression East Coast blueblood imperium into which he was born, has already started to unravel when fresh urine rains upon his head at an undergraduate hazing. His disillusionment continues when his poetry professor, a mentor of sorts, is exposed as a Nazi sympathizer. But it takes almost two decades for his peculiar idealism to turn in on itself. And then, that's only when the evidence is so painful, so irrefutable, that the indictment of his beliefs cannot be overturned.

The title, *The Good Shepherd*, slightly mocking, speaks to Wilson's largely unquestioning obeisance and loyalty—his unwavering faith in the society at large, more commonly found in Norman Rockwell's paintings than in reality.

A student at Yale, Wilson (Matt Damon) possesses a deep appreciation for poetry and its ability to capture the shades and nuances of the human condition. He's a young man of depth and compassion. But foremost, among the

scions of powerbrokers and professional politicians — the cunning, imperious, and venal — he is singularly honorable. It's an attribute that makes him predictable and reliable, an attractive candidate for many things, such as Skull and Bones.

His successful induction into the storied fraternity serves as a vetting for

institutions both social and professional for which most can never even apply. His opportunities prove costly.

While his heart opts for a girl outside the "select" circle, he allows himself to be seduced one evening by a fellow Skull and Bones member's sister (Angelina Jolie). This brief indiscretion results in a pregnancy. True to his creed, he does the "right thing."

The inevitable matrimonial disharmony is put on hold for six years. World War II is on, and Edwards' rectitude and pedigree uniquely qualify him for what will become the CIA. Through the conflict and the subsequent transition into the Cold War, the warrior with the poet's sensibilities remains loyal to his truths, even as his colleagues turn cynical.

He returns stateside, joining his wife and son; the former he has never loved, the latter he has never known. And even in the family, the poorly kept but never acknowledged secret of his livelihood can only be discussed indirectly, under duress and generally in anger.

*The Good Shepherd* comes as close to any movie to offering Le Carré insights into cold war espionage and the nebulous, contradicting constructs of nationalism and loyalty. And this alone makes it the best film of the year.

The plot, which admittedly lapses now and then, is in the service of a larger idea — never stated and left very much between the lines. Distinguishing itself from the tsunami of political offerings of late, *The Good Shepherd* does not revisit the issue of malignant and duplicitous politicians. It's more about what's missing, about something we're looking for, and through Matt Damon's character, a sense that despite our best efforts, it lies just beyond our grasp.

De Niro's directing is restrained and tight — sparse dialogue, no flourishes. He stays out of the way and lets the story tell itself. The result is worthy of a statue. ■

*The Good Shepherd* comes as close to any movie to offering Le Carré insights into cold war espionage and the nebulous, contradicting constructs of nationalism and loyalty. And this alone makes it the best film of the year.

Angelina Jolie and Matt Damon in *The Good Shepherd*.







Adventures  
in Irony

©Dr. Wes Browning

# The Ghost of Christmas Future

Now that the Christmas trees are back up at SeaTac, or those are up that haven't since blown away, and now that people have calmed down a bit, I feel the need to work them into a frenzy again. That's why this year I'm calling for all good Americans to stop

recognizing foreign winters, and start recognizing American winters. crats, who all say he's "looking good" and has an excellent prognosis until at least January 2009, so it won't be at all necessary for South Dakota Republican Gov. Mike Rounds to appoint anyone to take Johnson's place.

This is great because it means that I can forget about the bad scenario I have in mind happening to Tim Johnson. I can imagine it happening to a fictitious Democratic Senator. So let's do that together, shall we?

There are 51 Senators trying to keep the Senate in Democratic control. Actuarially speaking, they are most of them old, and no one would be surprised if they didn't all last the next two years. The same can be said for the other 49, less the difference. But what happens when, sometime in the middle of next year, the Democratic Senator William "Willy" Ornot from the great state of South Macadamia, governed by a Republican, slips and falls in an off-duty hula competition and gets himself concussed and then doesn't wake up from it, ever?

I'll tell you what happens, because I can see it coming as plain as a car hurtling south on a northbound one-way in rush hour, what with all the screeching tires and the smashing glass and crushed metal. At first, everyone will sit back respectfully and watch as the life support system is put into action, "the way he wanted it." Then someone will leak the man's actual living will, which will turn out to stipulate "no unusual life-prolonging measures" be taken. Then lawsuits will fly, at first involving only the family and the wife.

When it starts to look like the plug could be pulled, that's when you get a culture war realignment.

I don't know about the rest of you, die-hard liberals out there, but I for one am ready right now to sign a [GetOnWithIt.org](http://GetOnWithIt.org) petition calling for my Congresspeople to support "An Act for the relief of the people who don't want Democrats' plugs pulled."

Did I say that the Schiavo Bill was unconstitutional? I must have been smoking something. ■

Apparently nobody else noticed it last week but me, but a huge shift has occurred in the culture wars across this land, a shift that promises to make the crooked straight and the rough places plain.

What I'm talking about is the fact that practically every calendar you can find around here, including calendars designed and printed right here in America, even right here in this city, show winter 2006 as beginning on the 22nd of this month! This is an outrage!

In fact, winter begins at a little past 12:20 AM Greenwich Mean Time. Did you know that's code for British time, also known as ZULU time? Do we live in Britain? Do we live in Zululand? NO! We live in a city eight hours ahead, or behind, depending on whether (math joke alert!) you're positively or negatively oriented, ha. In any case, since it will still be the 21st here, winter starts here on the 21st all across America from Maine to Hawaii, AND ANTI-AMERICAN CALENDAR MAKERS DON'T WANT YOU TO KNOW IT. Are you paying attention, Lou Dobbs, or don't you care about the American Way of Life? It's time we celebrated Freedom Winter! No more Brit Winter!

OK, now that I've got that out of the way, I can do what I came here to do. Apparently nobody else noticed it last week but me, but a huge shift has occurred in the culture wars across this land, a shift that promises to make the crooked straight and the rough places plain.

I am speaking of the fact that Sen. Tim Johnson of South Dakota came this close (see pinched fingers, crushing the head of a flea) to needing a living will and testament. Fortunately all is well, this time. I've read that Sen. Johnson has been seen by no less than three highly qualified Demo-



Wed., Nov. 29, 6:15 a.m., Third and Bell St.

Officer was driving near the intersection of Third and Bell when victim, a transient white female aged 36, flagged him down. She explained that suspect, a transient Black male aged 42, had hit her. She pointed out a man standing about 15 feet away and ID'd him as the suspect. She was bleeding from a shallow one-inch abrasion over her left eye. Officer contacted the alleged suspect and detained him. Suspect stated that the victim had tried to take money out of his pocket, and so he had pushed her away. He denied striking her, and the officer saw no visible injuries to the suspect. Victim stated she had been sitting at the bus stop on Third and Bell when the suspect approached her and asked if she had a "horn" — street slang for a glass crack pipe. Suspect said she did, and the two then went down the street to smoke crack. Suspect used the pipe and then asked the victim if she would sell him the pipe for \$5 and a hit of crack. She agreed and gave suspect the pipe. He did not keep his side of the bargain, so victim took his blanket. Suspect started to argue, but would not give her the money or drugs. She stated they began to push and shove each other, and he hit her in the side of the head with a closed fist. At this point she saw the officer driving by and flagged him down. Suspect acknowledged that they were fighting over money, but would not disclose why. He would not acknowledge that they were using drugs, and no drugs were found on his person. He was read his Miranda Rights, and complained that it was unfair that he had been arrested when the victim had been fighting with him as much as he had with her. He was arrested and booked into King County Jail.

Fri., Dec. 8, 12:43 p.m., 2600 Elliott Ave., P-Patch.

An officer on patrol spotted the subject, a transient Hispanic male aged 26, sitting on the northwest corner of Elliott Ave. and Vine St., on the P-Patch. He was holding an open can of Heineken. Officer approached the man and asked if he was drinking the beer — the subject replied "Yes." Subject did not have an ID on him, but supplied officer with his name and date of birth. A routine computer check returned numerous men with the same name as subject — and many with outstanding warrants. Many of the physical descriptions also matched the subject, and the officer decided to have the man fingerprinted via the Identity Unit. Subject was handcuffed and transported to HQ, where he was fingerprinted. Officer reports that the system was extremely slow, but after 20 minutes a technician reported that there were no local hits on the subject. As a courtesy the man was transported back to the P-Patch where he was found and was issued a verbal warning about drinking in public.

Compiled from incident reports of the Seattle Police Department by Emma Quinn. Got your own experience to relate? Call us at (206)441-3247 ext. 207 and we'll get the scoop.

# Who's Your Chauffeur? Metro

A few weeks ago, you learned how to look fabulous while riding the bus. Now, let's explore how to take your fabulous self out for the evening.

If you've followed the first rule of car-free living — move to a transit-friendly neighborhood, preferably close to downtown — you'll find plenty of options for eating, drinking, dancing, watching, listening, and meeting a short walk or bus ride from your home. With no car to worry about, you can hop on the bus to Benaroya Hall or Belltown without giving a second thought to parking availability or costs. If you want to have a few drinks while you're out (remember, I said a few), go ahead. After all, you're not driving home.

Going out without a car does require some adjustments. Even in the most transit-friendly areas, your travel is limited by bus schedules. (I call this phenomenon the Buschickrella Syndrome.) If the last bus leaves before you are ready to end your night, you can use a few of the thousands of dollars you've saved on transportation to take a cab.

Spontaneous trips to inconvenient locations will require planning and will therefore happen far less frequently, but if you are willing to take advantage of the many dining and entertainment opportunities you can reach on the bus or on foot, you will hardly notice this.

Attending private parties without a car can also be a challenge. Unlike a movie or a concert, a party doesn't have a specified end time. If it's fun, you'll probably want to stay until they kick you out of the joint. Unfortunately, unless all your friends have been wise enough to choose transit-friendly neighborhoods, many of the parties you are invited to are likely to be in areas with spotty (or nonexistent) late-night bus service.

You can rent a Flexcar for these occasions, but since Flexcar charges by the hour, and the car will spend most of the evening parked in someone's driveway, I recommend it only as a last resort. Carpooling is sometimes an option. (Evite has streamlined this process by building a carpooling option into their software.) If you carpool, make sure to offer the driver gas money so the ride is mutually beneficial.

Usually, the best option will be to work with the bus service that's available. If you opt to ride the bus, make sure you:

- Know how often the route you're riding runs and when the last one leaves.
- Let the host know in advance that you have to leave at a specific time. A sudden and unexpected departure is often met with protest.
- Plan to leave at least 15 minutes earlier than you think you need to. It's no fun to rush out the door without a proper goodbye.

Besides, you wouldn't want the other guests to see you without your glass slippers. ■

Bus Chick,  
Transit  
Authority



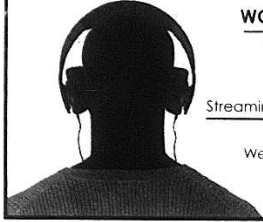
Carla Saulter

If you want to have a few drinks while you're out (remember, I said a few), go ahead. After all, you're not driving home.

Got something to say about public transportation in Seattle? E-mail Bus Chick at buschick@gmail.com or visit www.buschick.com

What does peace feel like?

**WORDS OF PEACE ON TV**  
Comcast Cable SCAN TV  
Ch. 77/29  
Sundays, 9:30 pm  
Streaming live at [www.scantv.org](http://www.scantv.org)  
DISH Network Ch. 9602  
Wed. 6:30 pm / Sun. 5:00 pm  
[www.peaceseeker.net](http://www.peaceseeker.net)  
206.524.6363



**LUCKY Palate**  
Vegetarian Meal  
Delivery Service

206-352-2583  
[www.LUCKYPALATE.COM](http://www.LUCKYPALATE.COM)

"Tasty, affordable, vegetarian meals delivered to your door!"



**FOLK STORE**  
Acoustic Fretted Instruments  
Bought and Sold  
Martin Guitar Dealer  
Books, Strings, Repairs

5210-A Roosevelt Way NE  
Seattle, Washington 98105  
(206) 524-1110

Free parking up to a half-hour  
in the loading zone out front.

[www.folkstoreseattle.com](http://www.folkstoreseattle.com)

**GET YOUR PICKS on (METRO) ROUTE 66**




**Sometimes you just need a car.**

If you live in the city, but you want to get out of town, chances are that a Flexcar sedan, AWD Honda Element, mini-van or pick-up can take you anywhere you want to go.

We pick up the gas, insurance, parking and maintenance so that you can drive hassle-free. New Weekend Specials are also available so taking a Flexcar on your outdoor adventures is now even more cost effective.

Real Change receives \$20 when you join on-line and mention us as a referring organization.

**Flexcar**  
[flexcar.com](http://flexcar.com)



This Holiday Season,  
**Help The Working Homeless  
HELP THEMSELVES.**


Since 1921 donations from people just like you have allowed the Millionair Club Charity to provide JOBS for the unemployed and HOT MEALS for the homeless. But we cannot do it without your help.

During this holiday season please remember one of your oldest local charities - started right here in Pioneer Square. Every dollar you give stays here in Seattle. We don't accept any government donations, so our ability to make a difference in the lives of so many needy people depends on one thing: YOU.

Every day 150-200 men and women come through our doors desperately wanting a job needing a hot meal. Your donation counts, so please give generously.

Go now to [www.MillionairClub.org](http://www.MillionairClub.org) or call 206-728-JOBS (5627) and donate today!

**M** Millionair Club Charity  
2515 Western Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98121  
206-728-JOBS (5627)  
WE NEED YOUR HELP TODAY!



**THE MILLIONAIR CLUB CHARITY**

**Letters**  
editor@realchangenews.org

**Eviction contradiction**

Dear *Real Change*,

James Fearn, the Seattle Housing Authority's general counsel, says that "Because most have paid by the time the papers arrive, there's nothing for them to worry about" ["By the Book: HUD regs on eviction open to interpretation, says SHA," Dec. 13]. I don't agree and concur with attorney Eric Dunn's wise assessment that there is damage occurring to tenants when the agency doesn't wait the period required by federal regulations.

Every time the Seattle Housing Authority's computer system automatically files between 300 to 400 eviction lawsuits with the court each month, even if the vast majority have been paid by the time the papers arrive by process server, it becomes a matter of public record and part of the credit record of the 300-400 residents each month even if they did so later or the non-payment was a simple mistake by the tenant or the agency versus a deliberate desire to not pay a landlord.

When I was an apartment manager, like many managers, I had a policy of not accepting tenants who had any evictions on their records, paid up or not, within the last seven years. I wasn't willing to take the chance knowing that the legal fees to file an unlawful detainer complaint would easily be \$1,000.

This means that if Anthony Cameron had applied to move into my building even using a Section 8 or

**Real Change Readers**  
are progressive, community-centered, and action oriented. We are educated, affluent, and support businesses that share our values.

**An ad this size can cost as little as \$22 per issue** call 441-3247 x205 for more information

Housing Choice Voucher, I would have turned him down for "fair credit reasons" because he had this "negative item" on his credit and public record. And yes, I used a tenant screening service.

The result is that SHA's policy of automatically filing lawsuits rather than following the law has a negative effect on low-income persons who are trying to move out of public housing into private spaces and hurts their credit ratings, which may prevent them from securing the best loan for a car, a house, renter's or car insurance, or even getting a job.

It also wastes public resources. Filing each lawsuit costs the agency \$175 along with staff time, or between \$52,500 to \$60,000 a month or \$630,000 to \$720,000 a year - money that could be used for better things, like repairing the wind damage to my Seattle Senior Housing Program building managed (or should I say mangled) by the agency.

**Keith Gormezano**  
Seattle

**Correction:** The proposed shopping center in Little Saigon ("Who Benefits?" Dec. 6-12) will have 600,000 square feet of retail, not 700,000 square feet, as the article stated.

*Real Change* welcomes letters to the editor of up to 250 words in length. Please include name, address, phone number, and email for author verification. Letters should be addressed to Editor at *Real Change*, 2129 2nd Ave., Seattle, WA, 98121, or emailed to [editor@realchangenews.org](mailto:editor@realchangenews.org).

**Discrimination?**  
**CALL US!**

**Seattle Office for Civil Rights**

(206) 684-4500  
(TTY) (206) 684-4503

[www.seattle.gov/civilrights](http://www.seattle.gov/civilrights)

Free, fair, and impartial services

**City of Seattle** Greg Nickels, Mayor

**We All Belong!**  
Housing  
Contracting  
Employment  
Public Accommodations

**CLASSIFIED**

**Employment**

**Seattle Art Museum** - Curator. Serves as curator of Asian Art exhibits, including judging the authenticity and artistic value of, and overseeing the care and presentation of Japanese and Korean art collections from the prehistoric age to the 21st century. Requires: Master's degree in Art History with emphasis in Asian Art, plus 2 yrs. exp. judging the authenticity and artistic value of, and overseeing the care and preservation of Asian paintings, calligraphy, sculpture, ceramics, lacquerware, and decorative arts from the 8th to the 19th century, and conceiving, organizing, and producing exhibitions of such art. Compensation includes salary and standard benefits. For details & to apply, go to: [www.seattleartmuseum.org/jobs](http://www.seattleartmuseum.org/jobs).

**Opportunity**

**Peace Vigil** in opposition to the Iraq War with signs "America Wants the Truth." Sun., Dec. 24, 2 p.m., Greenlake, E. Greenlake Way N & N 63rd St.

**Year-end Roundup On Human Rights.** Thurs., Dec. 28, Noon-5 p.m. WSBA Offices, 1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 600. Info: [www.wsba.org](http://www.wsba.org).

**My Fat Cat Designs** - Native American-Bead Designs. Hand Crafted Bracelets and Earrings. By artist Faith Ann Trust (vendor #3231). Call (206) 322-7438 to view jewelry, place an order, or for general information.

*Real Change* classifieds are a way to reach 30,000 loyal readers. Call 441-3247, or email [classified@realchangenews.org](mailto:classified@realchangenews.org).

# Calendar

## This Week's Top Ten

### Sunday 12/24

*Winterfest Interfaith Celebration* is a chance to celebrate the holiday season by promoting peace and goodwill instead of shopping. The upbeat afternoon features bands and vocal music from Jewish, Christian, and Arab communities. Performers include Kosher Red Hots, Pat Wright's Total Experience Gospel Choir, and Hejira Band. Noon, Seattle Center, Center House, 305 Harrison St.

### Monday 12/25

Featuring Rabbi Ted Falcon, Muslim Sufi Minister Jamal Rahman, and Pastor Don Mackenzie, the Interfaith Talk Radio Show furthers the understanding and deepening dialogue on matters of spirituality, compassion, and social justice. Listen in and contribute to the growth. 5 p.m., KKNW, 1150-AM. Info: [interfaithradio.com](http://interfaithradio.com).

### Until Wednesday 12/27

*Black Nativity: A Gospel Song Play* by Langston Hughes maintains its heart and soul as it enters its ninth season. Creative director Jacqueline Moscou and music director and Gospel Queen Pastor Patrinell Wright present their dynamic staging of the story with powerful classic gospel songs like *Joy to the World*. Tickets \$30 and up. Various times. Intiman Theatre, 201 Mercer St. Info: [www.intiman.org](http://www.intiman.org).

### Friday 12/29

Nine years in the making, *Amandla!* was shot on location in South Africa to capture the power of song in the long battle against apartheid. The vivid, color-drenched cinematography shows the beautiful musical numbers and unearths several unsung heroes. Vuyisile Mini realized the potency of song against the government and gave voice to the people with anthems like *Beware Verwoerd*. One of the most moving stories comes from current Parliament member Thandi Modise, a political prisoner during apartheid who was tortured despite her advanced pregnancy. 7 p.m., Keystone Church, 5019 Keystone Place N.

Bring your bicycle to Critical Mass, an organized coincidence of bicyclists who ride the streets of Seattle en masse and create awareness of the need for bike lanes and alternative transportation. 5:30 p.m., Westlake Park, 401 Pine St.

### Saturday 12/30

Learn about the ecological, economic, and psychological benefits of the Ballard Library's green roof. With over 18,000 plants, the green roof can reduce heating and cooling costs, storm water runoff, and the urban heat island effect while it naturally filters out pollutants.

10:30 a.m. Seattle Public Library, Ballard Branch, 5614 22nd Ave. N.W.

### Sunday 12/31

*Gathering for Contemplation and Reflection* includes chants, music, songs, and prayers from many spiritual traditions followed by a candlelit walk around the lake. Bring a candle and one to share. The walk is followed by homemade soup, music, and fun. 3 p.m., Green Lake Community Center, 7201 E. Green Lake Dr. N. Info: (206)633-0150.

The Radical Women's New Year's Eve Party celebrates with a buffet, dancing, comedy spoofs, and a no-host bar. Tickets \$15. 8:30 p.m., New Freeway Hall, 5018 Rainier Ave. S. Info: (206)722-6057.

### Until Sunday 12/31

The collaborative artist group *neuroTransmitter* presents two multimedia exhibits exploring pirate radio stations of the past and the means and aims of their rebellious activity. Their work raises questions about corporate and governmental control of radio and how radio can be reclaimed as a tool for protest and social advancement. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, 15th Ave. NE

Calendar compiled by Dena Burke. Have a suggestion for an event? Email it to [calendar@realchange.org](mailto:calendar@realchange.org).

## Director's Corner

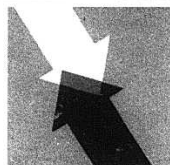


Last week, *Real Change* invited leadership from housing, poverty, labor, and tenants organizations to come together for lunch and share their statewide priorities for 2007. These included tripling the State Housing Trust Fund, taking on the predatory payday loan industry, addressing the appalling racial disproportionality in the child welfare system, extending health care to every child in Washington state, and ending the unfair advantage some employers receive by denying health benefits to their workforce.

The agenda around homelessness extends beyond these to increasing homelessness prevention funding, creating more support for recently released prisoners and foster kids aging out of the system, and funding more options for mental health and substance abuse treatment services.

2007 could be a good year for anti-poverty legislation. The economy is strong, the state budget is in good shape, and leadership is committed to making a difference. If there was ever a time to push hard to move things our way, this is it.

Nationally, despite the last election, it's another story. Any efforts that exist to end homelessness exist mostly on the rhetorical plane. Both money and power remain committed to comforting the comfortable and afflicting the afflicted. All politics, it's been said, are local. Where ending homelessness is concerned, it's the only game in town. This year, Housing and Homelessness Day in Olympia offers an excellent chance for all of us to make ourselves heard. Be there. Details can be found on the [cehkc.org](http://cehkc.org) website.



## First things First

Get Involved • Take Action

# A Street Guide to Olympia

The Washington State Legislature convenes Jan. 8. Below is some useful information, compiled by Nancy Amidei for the Civic Engagement Project, to help you understand and shape the legislative process. Cut it out, tape it up, make copies for your friends and co-workers.

**To contact your legislators in Olympia you can:** call, write, and visit. To find out who represents you, go to [www1.leg.wa.gov](http://www1.leg.wa.gov) and enter your home address in the field labeled "Your District Finder" at the bottom of the page.

**CALL:** You can call your legislators' offices directly, or use the toll-free hotline at 1 (800)562-6000 / TTY: 1(800)635-9993.

During the legislative session, operators are standing by weekdays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hotline operators will send your message to one of your legislators, all three of your legislators, the Governor, and Lieutenant Governor — or all of these, as you request. They can tell you who your legislators are if you give them your address, and they have language translation services.

**WRITE:** House: Representative X, P.O. Box 40600, Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Senate: Senator X, P.O. Box 404 [leg district], Olympia, WA 98504-04 [leg district]

**EMAIL:** [lastname.firstname@leg.wa.gov](mailto:lastname.firstname@leg.wa.gov)

**VISIT:** Citizens are welcome in Olympia, any day during the session. Also look for your representatives to hold "town hall" meetings back in their districts by mid-session.

The 2007 legislative session in Olympia runs from Jan. 8 through April 23.

Every day — including Saturdays and Sundays — is counted in setting the 105-day session. The legislature will be in session on all holidays and may also be in session on weekends near the end.

Some easy ways to stay informed about the session and the issues you care about are:

**Read Policy Watch.** Go to <http://depts.washington.edu/ssweb/policyw/>. Each week's "issue" is posted by Monday during the session.

**Watch TWV.** TWV is a cable network that goes into Committee Hearings and other events around the Capitol during the Legislative Session. In addition to being available by cable, it is also available via the Internet.

**Contact an advocacy group that focuses on your issue.**

There is an advocacy group for almost every issue. These groups monitor the issues closely, distribute action alerts, and recommend positions and messages on bills and budget items. Next week we'll list upcoming advocacy days for the 2007 session and some advocacy groups sponsoring those days that you might want to get connected with.

**CHUCK RINEHART**

*Journeyman Carpenter  
Contractor*

Remodels • Repairs • Updating  
Disability Alterations &

Ph (206) 719-8450

Lic. # RINEHC1066MR

**CONDO, Continued from Page 1**

The bill would also remove the current cap of \$500 on relocation assistance, which developers must pay tenants who earn 80 percent or less of the area's median income. (In cases of apartment demolition, developers must pay tenants half of \$2,500 — the city pays the other half.) Rasmussen aide Brian Hawksford explains the change in the state law would allow Seattle to raise the amount of relocation assistance paid

in condo conversions. In theory, the change could also allow jurisdictions to reduce or eliminate developer-paid assistance altogether.

"That certainly won't be Seattle's intent, because we want developers to contribute [relocation assistance] to income-eligible participants," Hawksford says. "The intent is to leave it up to local discretion." John Fox of the Seattle Displacement Coalition, a nonprofit that tracks low-income housing losses, says the bill doesn't go far enough in giving the city the discretion it really needs: the ability to put a moratorium on condo conversions or cap their annual number, the way San Francisco does.

"It's wholly inadequate," Fox says of the bill. "It will not curtail the continued

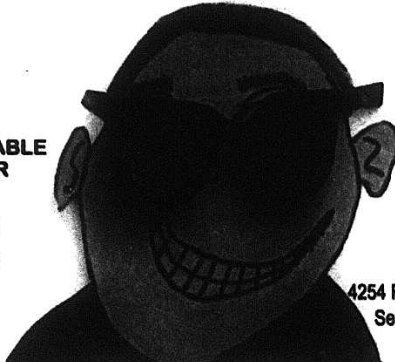
loss in the net supply of low-income housing in the city."

Hawksford says a moratorium would require another legislative change that would have little support in Olympia. As it is, Timothy Harris, an attorney with the Building Industry Association of Washington, says the bill goes too far and would only make Seattle's affordable housing situation worse.

Forcing developers to pay tenants more and wait until the last tenant is out, he says, will "drive up the cost of housing for the people who can least afford it: people buying basic condominiums."

For residents who've lived in a building for years, he says, "it's going to be that much more difficult to buy their own apartments because this bill will add to the price." ■

**eyes ON FREMONT**



**UNIQUE AFFORDABLE EYEWEAR**

- Friendly, Skilled Staff
- On Site Lab
- Eye Exams
- Student Discounts

4254 Fremont Ave. N.  
Seattle, WA 98103  
(206) 634-3375

The sun may be gone for the winter...



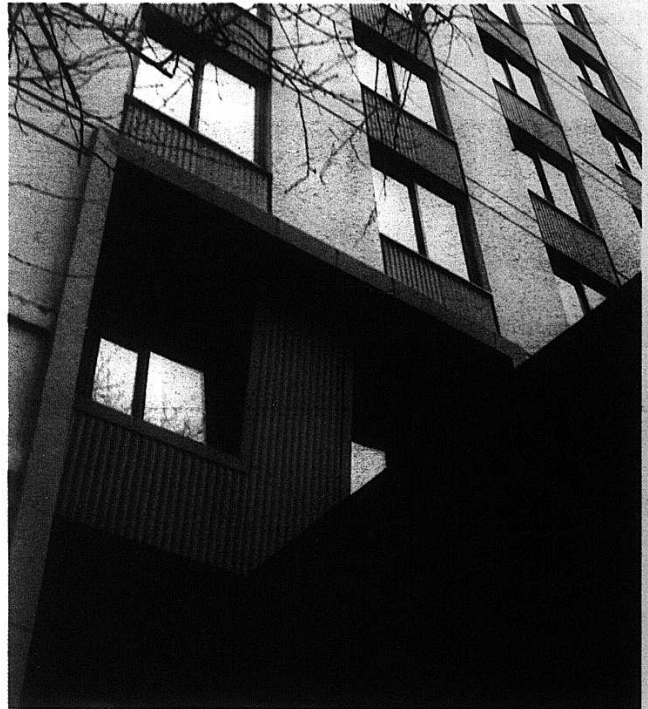
But the Real Change vendors are still here!

The vendor who sold you this paper, and all the other men and women of Real Change, are working outside all day, rain or shine, warm or cold. And right now, it's cold out there.

Real Change is now collecting new and gently used winter wear, especially rain gear, boots, gloves and hats, for our vendors.

Donations may be brought to the office Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, contact Danina Garcia at daninag@realchangenews.org or (206) 441-3247 x211.



THE DECATUR APARTMENT BUILDING, ON FIRST HILL, IS BEING RENOVATED AND ITS UNITS SOLD AS CONDOMINIUMS. ITS 146 UNITS IS PART OF A WAVE OF SEATTLE RENTALS BEING CONVERTED TO CONDOS THIS YEAR. PHOTO BY ADAM HYLIA

**The vendor who sold you this paper works. So does Real Change.**

Real Change is an active force in making a difference here and now.

Every month, more than 250,000 people who are probably housed pay for the money they need while they help support the people from 1 home no more.

Our weekly urban news is the only voices you don't hear elsewhere and quality reporting on issues that affect you. We offer the information you need to investigate and make a difference.

Real Change is reader supported... Last year, more than 800 people read *Real Change* news paper by supporting the work they believe in.

**I Support Real Change. Here's what I can do.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$35  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks to *Real Change* and mail to 2129 2nd Ave., Seattle, WA 98121, or use our secure online giving option at [realchangenews.org](http://realchangenews.org). *Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project* is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

